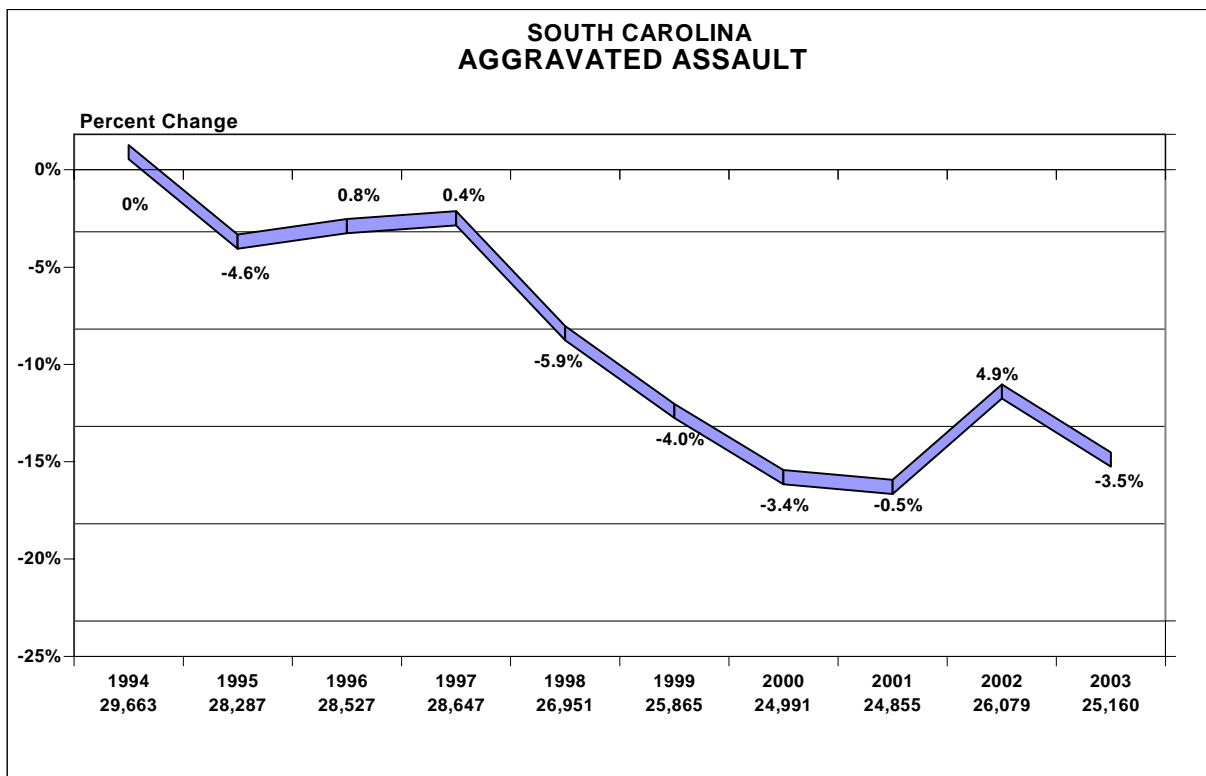


# AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

## **DEFINITION**

Aggravated Assault, for UCR purposes, is defined as an unlawful attack by one person upon another with the intent of inflicting serious bodily injury. Aggravated Assaults are frequently accomplished through the use or threatened use of dangerous weapons. However, assaults resulting in serious injury from the use of hands or feet are also counted in this category. Attempts to assault are counted here since it is not necessary that injury result whenever a dangerous weapon is employed. Attempts to commit murder are classified under this category. One offense is counted for each victim of aggravated assault.



### 2003 SUMMARY

A total of 25,160 aggravated assaults was reported in the 2003 crime index. During this year, aggravated assaults decreased 3.5 percent compared to those reported in 2002.

There were 14,248 aggravated assaults cleared by arrest or exceptionally cleared, amounting to a clearance rate of 56.6 percent statewide.

Aggravated assaults accounted for 76.2 percent of all violent crimes and 11.6 percent of the total crime index.

The aggravated assault rate in South Carolina was 60.8 per 10,000 persons.

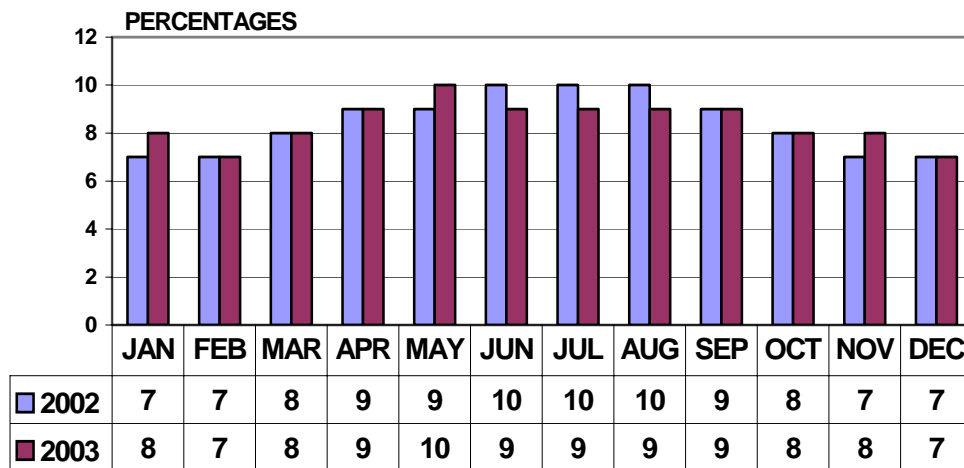
The age group 25-34 accounted for 25.5 percent of persons arrested for aggravated assault. Males represented 78.0 percent of the total arrests made. Of all persons arrested for this offense, 41.8 percent were white, 57.7 percent were black, and 0.5 percent were other races.

Firearms were used in 20.4 percent of all aggravated assaults, cutting instruments in 20.0 percent, hands and feet in 26.9 percent, other weapons in 31.4 percent, and unknown weapons in 1.4 percent.

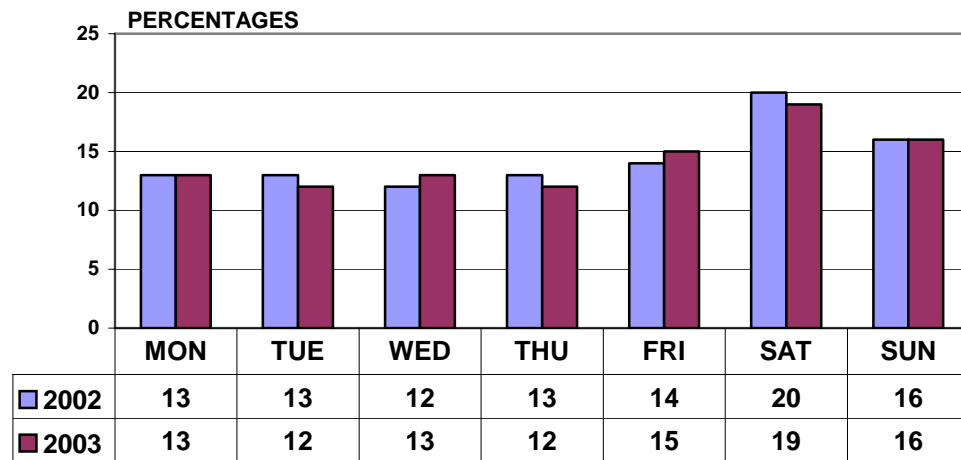
Victims were known to have been using alcohol at the time of the offense in 12.1 percent of the cases, drugs in 0.2 percent, and alcohol and drugs in 0.4 percent.

Offenders were known to have been using alcohol at the time of the offense in 16.9 percent of the cases, drugs in 0.8 percent, and alcohol and drugs in 0.9 percent.

### AGGRAVATED ASSAULT INCIDENTS BY MONTH



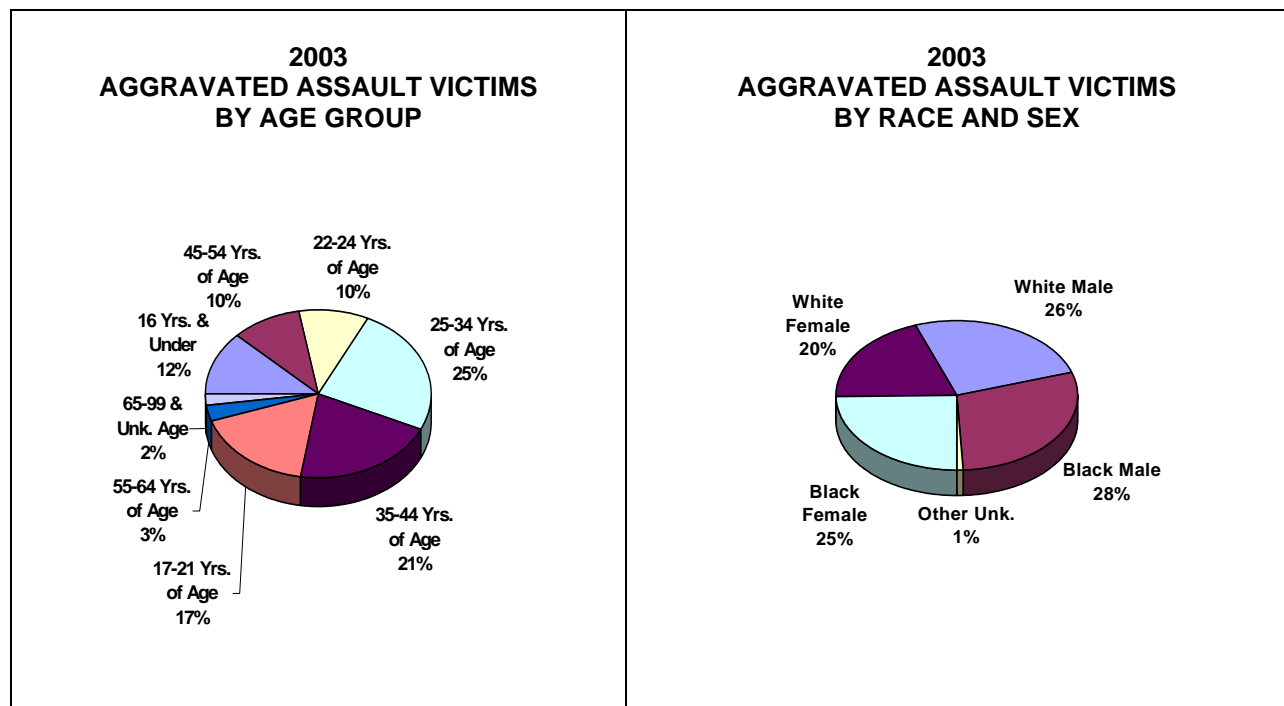
### AGGRAVATED ASSAULT INCIDENTS BY DAY OF WEEK



### 2003 AGGRAVATED ASSAULT VICTIMS BY AGE, SEX, RACE

Age Group	Total	White Male	Black Male	Other Male	Unk Male	White Female	Black Female	Other Female	Unk Female	Unk Unk
Infant	42	12	13	0	0	6	11	0	0	0
01 – 04	208	62	52	0	0	50	41	1	0	2
05 – 09	334	81	117	0	1	55	80	0	0	0
10 – 16	2,502	583	887	5	3	382	633	5	2	2
17 – 21	4,304	1,010	1,308	9	6	757	1,210	3	1	0
22 – 24	2,507	650	668	9	4	437	734	2	1	2
25 – 34	6,285	1,655	1,618	18	11	1,326	1,638	14	3	2
35 – 44	5,206	1,377	1,441	6	8	1,204	1,162	7	1	0
45 – 54	2,526	671	859	4	0	511	476	5	0	0
55 – 64	766	240	230	1	0	150	144	1	0	0
65 – 99	316	85	80	0	0	83	65	1	2	0
Unk, Other	272	57	78	0	11	45	54	1	4	22
<b>State Total</b>	<b>25,268</b>	<b>6,483</b>	<b>7,351</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>5,006</b>	<b>6,248</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>30</b>

**NOTE:** The victim counts shown here have not been subjected to the “hierarchy rule” (explained elsewhere); therefore, all victims linked to this offense type are counted.

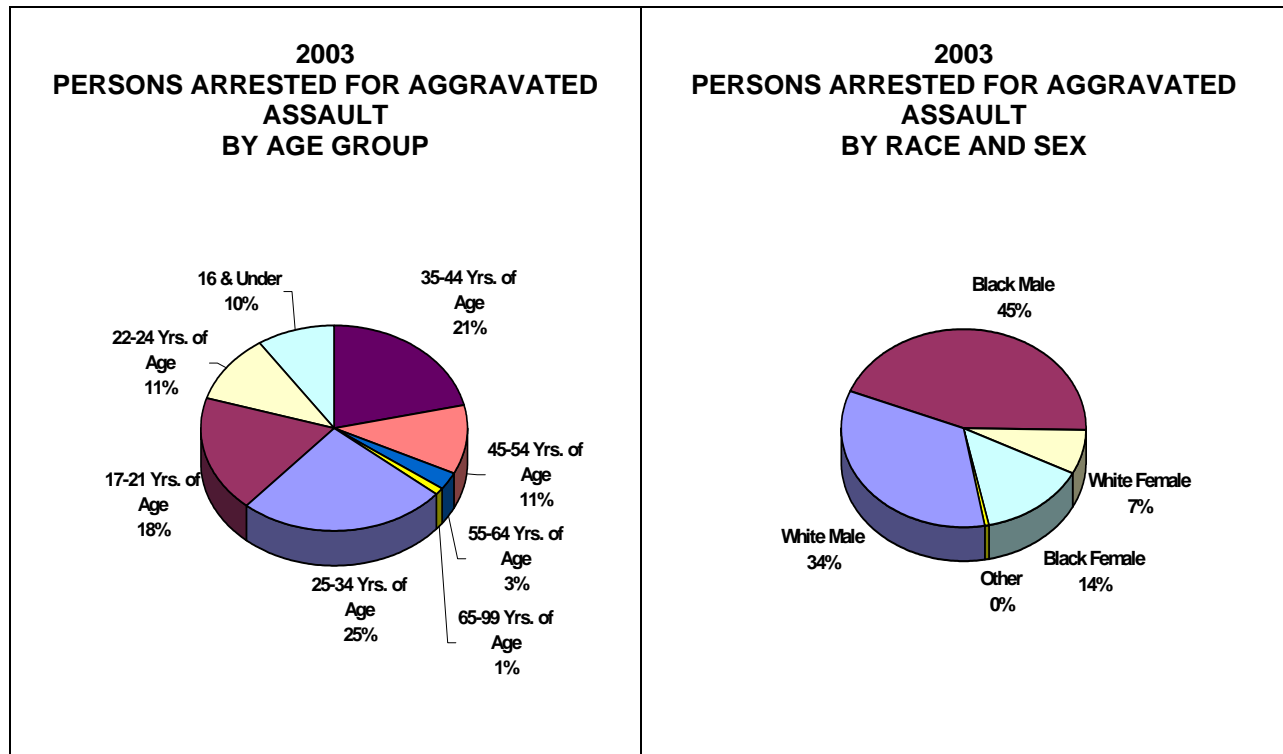


Twenty-six percent of aggravated assault victims in 2003 were white males, 27 percent of those were 21 years of age or younger; 29 percent were black males, 32 percent of those were 21 years of age or younger. White females accounted for 20 percent of aggravated assault victims, 25 percent of those were 21 years of age or younger; black females accounted for 25 percent of aggravated assault victims, 32 percent of those were 21 years of age or younger.

### 2003 PERSONS ARRESTED FOR AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

Age Group	Total	White Male	Black Male	Other Male	White Female	Black Female	Other Female
01 – 04	2	1	1	0	0	0	0
05 – 09	8	2	5	0	0	1	0
10 – 16	871	212	430	2	65	162	0
17 – 21	1,681	483	830	5	103	259	1
22 – 24	1,008	321	485	4	45	152	1
25 – 34	2,350	816	1,026	10	185	307	6
35 – 44	1,972	763	738	6	182	280	3
45 – 54	995	381	413	3	79	116	3
55 – 64	269	109	116	0	18	25	1
65 – 99	97	40	47	0	2	8	0
<b>State Total</b>	<b>9,253</b>	<b>3,128</b>	<b>4,091</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>1,310</b>	<b>15</b>

**NOTE:** The arrest counts shown here have not been subjected to the “hierarchy rule” (explained elsewhere); therefore, all persons arrested that are linked to this offense type are counted.

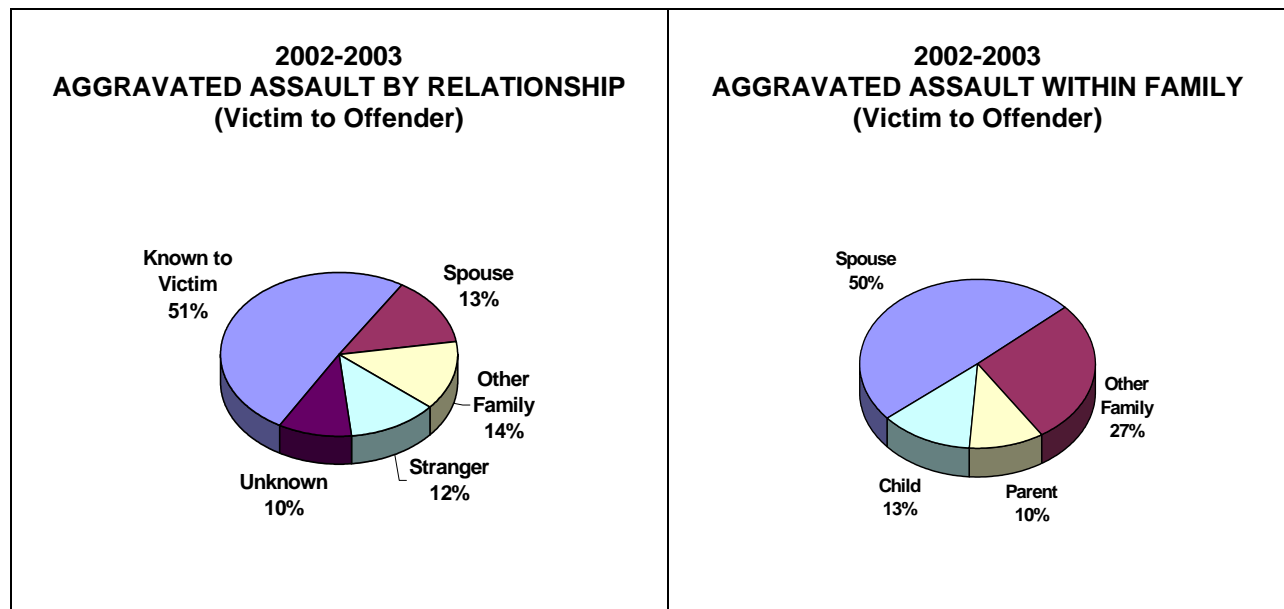


Thirty-four percent of persons arrested for aggravated assault in 2003 were white males, 22 percent of those were 21 years of age or younger, 44 percent were black males, 31 percent of those were 21 years of age or younger. White females accounted for 7 percent of persons arrested for aggravated assault, while black females accounted for 14 percent of persons arrested. More than 24 percent of the white females and 32 percent of the black females were 21 years of age or younger.

## 2002-2003 RELATIONSHIP OF AGGRAVATED ASSAULT VICTIMS TO OFFENDERS

Relationship Of Victim To Offender	Number of Victims 2001	% Distr.	Number of Victims 2002	% Distr.	Number of Victims 2003	% Distr.
<b>Within Family</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>7,195</b>	<b>27.5</b>	<b>6,832</b>	<b>27.0</b>
Spouse	N/A	N/A	2,385	9.1	2,234	8.8
Common-Law Spouse	N/A	N/A	1,168	4.5	1,144	4.5
Parent, Stepparent	N/A	N/A	733	2.8	732	2.9
Child, Stepchild	N/A	N/A	912	3.5	871	3.4
Sibling, Stepsib.	N/A	N/A	876	3.3	818	3.2
Other Family	N/A	N/A	1,121	4.3	1,033	4.1
<b>Known to Victim</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>13,121</b>	<b>50.1</b>	<b>12,912</b>	<b>51.1</b>
Acquaintance	N/A	N/A	10,092	38.5	9,858	39.0
Ex-Spouse	N/A	N/A	167	0.6	176	0.7
Boy/Girlfriend	N/A	N/A	2,862	10.9	2,878	11.4
<b>Stranger</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>3,102</b>	<b>11.8</b>	<b>3,144</b>	<b>12.4</b>
<b>Unknown, Other</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>2,764</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>2,380</b>	<b>9.4</b>
<b>State Total</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>26,182</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>25,268</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**NOTE:** The victim counts in this table have not been subjected to the "hierarchy rule" (explained elsewhere), therefore, all victims linked to this offense type are counted. For simplicity, only one relationship category has been counted for each victim. (If there was more than one offender related to a victim, only the relationship "closest" to that victim was counted.)

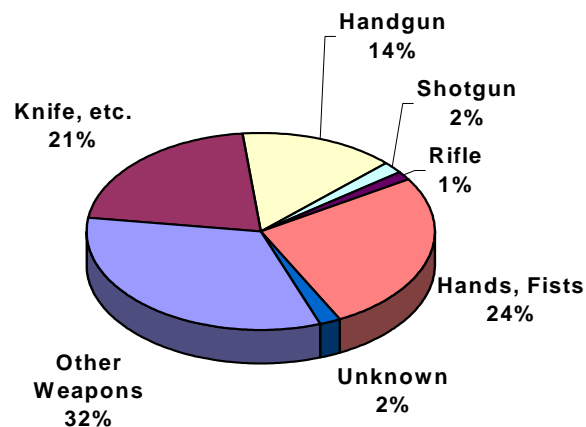


### 2002-2003 AGGRAVATED ASSAULT WEAPON DISTRIBUTION

<b>Weapons</b>	<b>2001 Incidents</b>	<b>% Distr.</b>	<b>2002 Incidents</b>	<b>% Distr.</b>	<b>2003 Incidents</b>	<b>% Distr.</b>
Handgun	N/A	N/A	3,141	14.1	2,876	13.8
Shotgun	N/A	N/A	469	2.1	438	2.1
Rifle	N/A	N/A	293	1.3	230	1.1
Other Firearm	N/A	N/A	718	3.2	721	3.5
Knife, Cutting Instr.	N/A	N/A	4,546	20.4	4,179	20.0
Hands, Fists	N/A	N/A	5,410	24.3	5,615	26.9
Other Weapons	N/A	N/A	7,150	32.1	6,552	31.4
Unknown	N/A	N/A	523	2.4	284	1.4
<b>State Total</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>22,250</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>20,895</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**NOTE:** The incident counts in this table have not been subjected to the "hierarchy rule" (explained elsewhere), therefore, all incidents in this category are counted. For simplicity, only one weapon type has been counted for each incident. (If there was more than one weapon type used in an incident, only the primary weapon as listed in order in this table - was counted.)

### 2002-2003 AGGRAVATED ASSAULT WEAPON DISTRIBUTION



### 2002-2003 AGGRAVATED ASSAULT INCIDENTS BY PREMISE

Premise	2001 Incidents	% Distr.	2002 Incidents	% Distr.	2003 Incidents	% Distr.
Residences, Apts.	N/A	N/A	14,086	63.3	12,943	61.9
Roads, Parking Lots, etc.	N/A	N/A	4,404	19.8	4,406	21.1
Commercial	N/A	N/A	885	4.0	821	3.9
Nightclubs, Bars	N/A	N/A	842	3.8	813	3.9
Hotels, Motels	N/A	N/A	243	1.1	244	1.2
Convenience Stores, etc.	N/A	N/A	394	1.8	343	1.6
Schools, Churches	N/A	N/A	583	2.6	585	2.8
Woods, etc.	N/A	N/A	150	0.7	152	0.7
Other	N/A	N/A	663	3.0	588	2.8
<b>State Total</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>22,250</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>20,895</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**NOTE:** The counts in this table have not been subjected to the "hierarchy rule" (explained elsewhere).

### 2002-2003 AGGRAVATED ASSAULT INCIDENTS BY PREMISE

